

were unable to escape the bloodhounds; and Talamas, with other lads, pursued by these brutes, crossed the ford and climbed into a tree from which they witnessed the bloody battle that followed. Osceola ordered bruised poisoned roots to be cast into the streams, and the dogs, hot from the pursuit, drank, and died of the poison. In the fierce battle which ensued, the boys came down from the tree and took part in the barbarities that followed. At length, Talamas found his way to the town of St. Augustine, and this is his account of what he saw:

"One day I saw a man. They were knifing some beeves. He was sitting on a stump, talking of something in Spanish. I went up behind him and heard him say, 'Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners.' He said it again. 'What is that? Who is Jesus Christ?' I asked him to say that to me again about Jesus Christ. Answer, 'He is the Son of God.' 'Who is God?' 'He is your Great Spirit.' 'Who are sinners?' 'You Seminoles fighting the government.' "

These words greatly distressed Talamas and horrible feelings began to burn in his bosom. He felt that he was a sinner, and his conviction grew deeper for three weeks, until it seemed to him that he was the greatest sinner that ever ran among the Everglades. Memory brought up everything that he had ever done. He had cut boys with knives and had scars on his hands made in these fights. He remembered to have beaten a boy once, and broken his back, so that he always afterward had a hump. Remorse tortured him, especially at night. He felt that the Great Spirit was angry with him, and then the thought that he had sent his Son to save him broke his heart and his distress was a double distress, particularly on account of the grace of this unknown God.

He says, "I thought I would get up a 'stamp dance.' I thought I could stamp these feelings away. I raised a whoop that could be heard for three miles away. It brought the Indians together. I was a great hand in the 'stamp dance.' In fact, was a leader of it, and I stamped with all my might, but I only stamped my bad feeling deeper in. Then I went down in the bushes close by and took a knife to cut my throat. I opened the biggest blade, and just then I looked up and saw my aunt looking right into my eyes. 'Well,' I said, 'I will not kill myself where she can see me. I don't want her going around hollering and screaming,' so I went to a more secluded spot in the marsh by the great oaks.

"Just then the thought came powerfully into my mind 'Is not the Great Spirit able to take away the bad feelings? I will ask him,' and I did just as the Indian doctors ask for rain. I said, 'Great Spirit, pity me and take away these bad feelings and keep me from killing myself.'

"Just as soon as I had asked, it was all gone, and I felt that the Great Spirit had answered me. I shut up my knife.

"I gave another whoop and gathered hence all the Indians together and told them about my experience. I was anxious to tell it. It did me good. I could not keep it in. I asked them what it meant, but they could not tell. They were all heathen themselves. Then I went all around telling. At last an

old negro came and said, 'A white man is hunting for you,' and soon he came with a white man, and the white man came and took my hand, and said, 'If you will go with me, I will put you to school and tell you about the Book, and they will explain it all,' and he took me to his vessel at Key West."

This man was Captain Bemo, of the "Shenandoah," carrying provisions for the army. He took Talamas to New Orleans, then to New York, where he began to learn English. This Captain Bemo was a good Christian, and Talamas was afterwards known as John Douglas Bemo. He afterwards went with the captain, and joined one of the expeditions in search of Sir John Franklin. He says: "We found the ship, an English vessel, crowded up in ice. It had been there thirteen years, and the sailors cried when they saw it. We climbed in and saw the captain sitting at a table with his hat and overcoat on, and a pen in his hand. The last words he had written were, 'My wife froze last night.' The sailors were sitting around frozen."

Talamas was gone with Captain Bemo four years, and, on his return, was an inmate of the family of Rev. Alston Douglas, a Bethel preacher, who taught the Indian. Thence he went to Lafayette College, where he was with Dr. Jenkins for three or four years, and got a good English education; then he took a theological course at Princeton, after which he went to the Indian Territory and became a useful minister among the remnant of his people.

Behold how from the smallest germs, the divine life may grow in the most unlikely soil; how the Spirit of God may work in those in whom we are expecting no such work, and how, with scarce any human agency, Christ may be revealed in saving power to one who has scarcely any knowledge of him as a historic person.—"Christian Intelligencer."

THE SIN OF POSTPONED DUTIES.

Deferred duties usually mean neglected duties. In this field, accumulation is the enemy of accomplishment. Accumulated dividends may be a very good thing, but are hardly ever earned by allowing unfinished tasks to pile upon us. When we have to admit that there are a score of duties that have been awaiting our attention for days and weeks or months, and that ought to have had our attention long ago, we may at the same time safely admit that something is wrong with our plan of life. The whole trouble probably lies in our not doing today what we ought to do today; and that results from two sins: misusing some of our time, and wasting some of our time. The right selection of our tasks, and then intense concentration on our tasks, will put a stop to the fatal accumulation. No one has any right to stagger along under the burden of unfinished tasks that ought long ago to have been put out of the way.—S. S. Times.

A very significant sentence from Anna Held, the actress, is reported in the papers. She has been successful on the stage and is about to retire. She says, "I have made millions on the stage, but my advice to young girls is to keep away from it." To this we add: If the stage is injurious to girls, Christians may well refrain from encouraging it.